

HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL: OJO LOCAL GOVERNMENT CASE STUDY, LAGOS STATE, NIGERIA.

By

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ABSTRACT

The increasing quantity of solid waste and its disposal is a major problem worldwide. Improper disposal of solid waste could constitute a source of environmental pollution and health hazards. The current work investigated the pattern of household waste collection and disposal in Ojo Local Government Area (OLGA) of Lagos metropolis. Public opinions on household waste management and disposal system were evaluated using statistically designed household sampling survey. The survey covered 60 households with different socio-economic characteristics with a focus group of 120 respondents. The most significant household characteristics considered include gender, age distribution and educational attainments. The results show that both collection and disposal system of waste from households by the Private Sector Participation (PSP) operators is far from being efficient. It lacks proper coordination, with inadequate equipment and tools. The scheme is characterized with irregularity in waste collection and in frequency of collection. Results revealed an absence of waste sorting or separation at household level. There is evidence of willingness from the respondents to pay for waste management services as currently practiced. However, billing should be based on the quantity of waste generated. The sustainability of the current solid waste management scheme will largely depend on improved quality of services by the PSP. As much as participation of the private sector is gaining much recognition among the populace, its involvement should be made highly competitive in order to drive for high quality service delivery.

Key words: Household waste, collection, disposal, sustainability, public opinion and severity index.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Improper collection and disposal of solid waste is a major concern the world over most importantly in the developing nations of the world. Rapid growth of cities with none or inadequate infrastructural facilities have been

singled out to be responsible for the accumulation of large quantities of wastes. This huge quantity of waste generation coupled with improper disposal methods result in environmental pollution (Ojeshina and Longe, 1996; Ayotamuno and Gobo, 2004; Kaundal and Sharma, 2007). This precarious